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Agenda item 20 (b)

STRENGTHENING OF THE COORDINATION OF HUMANITARIAN AND DISASTER RELIEF ASSISTANCE OF THE UNITED NATIONS, INCLUDING SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE: SPECIAL ECONOMIC ASSISTANCE TO INDIVIDUAL COUNTRIES OR REGIONS

New Zealand and Rwanda: draft resolution

Situation in Rwanda: international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in Rwanda

The General Assembly,

Recalling its resolutions 48/211 of 21 December 1993, entitled "Emergency assistance for the socio-economic rehabilitation of Rwanda", and 49/23 of 2 December 1994, entitled "Emergency international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in war-stricken Rwanda",

Recalling also Security Council resolution 1029 (1995) of 12 December 1995 concerning the final extension of the mandate of the United Nations Assistance Mission for Rwanda and calling upon States and donor agencies to fulfil their earlier commitments to give assistance for Rwanda's rehabilitation efforts, to increase such assistance and in particular to support the early and effective functioning of the International Tribunal for Rwanda and the rehabilitation of the Rwandan judicial system,

Taking note of the report of the Secretary-General of 1 December 1995 1/ and of the statement by the President of the Security Council of

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1/ S/1995/1002.

17 October 1995 2/ in connection with tne consideration by the Council of the item entitled "The situation concerning Rwanda",

Having considered the report of the Secretary-General on emergency international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in war-stricken Rwanda, 3/

Taking into consideration the serious consequences of genocide and other mass killings, and of the destruction of the economic, social, educational and administrative infrastructure,

Expressing its grave concern over the disastrous humanitarian situation of the Rwandan population, including 1.6 million refugees who need to be reintegrated into society and employment, and noting that several categories of refugees are also involved,

Welcoming the summit of Heads of State of the Great Lakes region, held at Cairo on 28 and 29 November 1995 and their declaration of 29 November 1995, 4/

Emphasizing the need to consider the crisis in Rwanda in a regional context, in view of its implications for the countries of the region, through the implementation of the plan of action recommended by the Government of Rwanda, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees and the Organization of African Unity within the framework of the Peace Agreement between the Government of the Rwandese Republic and the Rwandese Patriotic Front signed at Arusha, United Republic of Tanzania, on 4 August 1993, 5/

Conscious that technical assistance and advisory services will assist the Government of Rwanda in reconstructing the social, legal and economic infrastructure, and that extensive assistance is required for this,

Recognizing that the Arusha Peace Agreement provides an appropriate framework for national reconciliation,

Expressing its gratitude to those States and intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations which have responded positively and continue to respond positively to the humanitarian and development needs of Rwanda, and to the Secretary-General, who has mobilized and coordinated the distribution of humanitarian assistance,

1. Encourages the Government of Rwanda to pursue its efforts with a view to creating conditions that would be conducive to the return of the refugees to

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2/ S/PRST/1995/53.

3/ A/50/654.

4/ S/1995/1001, annex.

5/ A/48/824-S/26915, annexes I-VII.

their country and their resettlement, and to the recovery by displaced persons of their property in peace, security and dignity;

2. Congratulates the Secretary-General on the efforts he has made to draw the attention of the international community to the humanitarian situation in Rwanda, requests him to provide all possible assistance, and encourages him and his Special Representative to continue to coordinate the activities of the United Nations in Rwanda, including those of the organizations and agencies active in the humanitarian and developmental field, and of the human rights officers;

3. Welcomes the increased commitments and funds pledged for the Government's Programmes of National Reconciliation and Socio-Economic Rehabilitation Recovery, and calls on the international community to continue to support Rwanda's rehabilitation process and to translate these pledges into urgent concrete assistance;

4. Urges all States, United Nations organizations, specialized agencies and other intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations and the international financial and development institutions to continue to provide all possible financial, technical and material assistance, bearing in mind that sound economic foundations are vital for achieving lasting stability in Rwanda and for the return and resettlement of Rwandan refugees;

5. Calls on the international community to continue its assistance with a view to alleviating the intolerable conditions in Rwandan prisons, and encourages the Government of Rwanda to continue its efforts to improve the situation in the prisons;

6. Urges all States, in particular donor counties, to contribute generously to the trust fund established by the Secretary-General on 14 July 1994 to finance humanitarian relief and rehabilitation programmes to be implemented in Rwanda;

7. Calls on all States to act in accordance with the recommendations adopted by the Nairobi Summit of January 1995, the Regional Conference on Assistance to Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in the Great Lakes Region, held at Bujumbura in February 1995, and those contained in the Cairo Declaration, 4/ and to continue efforts with regard to the search for peace in the Great Lakes region;

8. Requests the Secretary-General to consult with the Government of Rwanda and with the relevant United Nations agencies on the nature of a continued United Nations presence in Rwanda after 8 March 1996 and on the role such a United Nations presence might play in furthering the search for peace and stability through justice, reconciliation and refugee return and in assisting the Government of Rwanda in its pressing task of rehabilitation and reconstruction, and to report to the General Assembly by 1 February 1996 on the results of those consultations in addition to submitting to the Assembly at its fifty-first session a report on the implementation of the present resolution;

9. Decides to consider at its fifty-first session the question of the situation in Rwanda: international assistance for a solution to the problem of refugees, the restoration of total peace, reconstruction and socio-economic development in Rwanda.